

Springfield, Illinois
September 3, 2003

Met, pursuant to notice, at 10:00 A.M.

BEFORE :

MR. MICHAEL WALLACE, Administrative Law Judge

APPEARANCES:

MS. SUSAN HAFELI
Shaw Pittman, LLP
2300 North Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

(Appearing on behalf of the Applicant)

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I N D E X

WITNESSES	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIRECT	RECROSS
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Tom Gregson				
By Ms. Hafeli	4			
By Judge Wallace		8		

EXHIBITS	MARKED	ADMITTED
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Applicant's 1	e-Docket	
Applicant's 2	e-Docket	6

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 JUDGE WALLACE: Pursuant to the direction of
3 the Illinois Commerce Commission, I now call Docket
4 03-0394. This is the application of Metro
5 Teleconnect Companies, Inc. Seeking a certificate of
6 authority to provide resold interexchange
7 telecommunications services throughout the State of
8 Illinois.

9 May I have appearances for the record,
10 please.

11 MS. HAFELI: Yes. On behalf of Applicant, I'm
12 Susan Hafeli, H-A-F- as in Frank, E-L-I, of the law
13 firm Shaw Pittman, P-I-T-T-M-A-N, LLP. Would you
14 like our address as well?

15 JUDGE WALLACE: Yes, please.

16 MS. HAFELI: Our address is 2300 N Street, N as
17 in Nancy, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

18 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. Thank you.

19 Let the record reflect there are no other
20 appearances at today's hearing.

21 Ms. Hafeli, you have a witness?

22 MS. HAFELI: Yes, we do, Your Honor, Mr. Tom

1 Gregson.

2 JUDGE WALLACE: All right.

3 MS. HAFELI: Mr. Gregson, would you please
4 state your name, title, and business address for the
5 record?

6 JUDGE WALLACE: Well, before we go on, just for
7 the record, Mr. Gregson, you swear to tell the truth
8 in this matter?

9 MR. GREGSON: Yes, sir.

10 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. You may go ahead.

11 TOM GREGSON

12 called as a witness on behalf of the Applicant,
13 having been first duly sworn, was examined and
14 testified as follows:

15 DIRECT EXAMINATION

16 THE WITNESS:

17 **A.** My name is Tom Gregson, Director of Operations,
18 Metro Teleconnect Companies, 2150 Herr, H-E-R-R,
19 Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17103.

20 MS. HAFELI:

21 **Q.** Mr. Gregson, are you aware of the application
22 and the underlying documents and exhibits that were

1 filed in this matter?

2 **A.** Yes, I am.

3 **Q.** And if I were to ask you the questions that
4 appear on the application today, would your answers
5 be substantially the same as they appear on the
6 application?

7 **A.** Yes, they would.

8 **Q.** And is it your testimony that the documents to
9 the best of your knowledge are authentic and true?

10 **A.** Yes.

11 MS. HAFELI: Your Honor, with that, I'd like to
12 admit as Applicant's Exhibit Number 1 the
13 application and supporting documents and exhibits.

14 JUDGE WALLACE: All right.

15 MS. HAFELI: We also have the testimony in
16 support of that application which I had intended to
17 admit as Exhibit Number 2.

18 JUDGE WALLACE: All right.

19 MS. HAFELI: May I proceed?

20 JUDGE WALLACE: Yes.

21 MS. HAFELI:

22 **Q.** Mr. Gregson, do you have before you a five-

1 page document in question and answer format entitled
2 the Prefiled Direct Testimony of Tom Gregson on
3 Behalf of Applicant, Metro Teleconnect Companies,
4 Inc.?

5 **A.** I'm turning the pages.

6 **Q.** Was that a yes, sir?

7 **A.** I'm finding it. I'm getting to it right now.
8 Here it is. Yes, I do.

9 **Q.** Mr. Gregson, was that document prepared by you
10 or under your supervision?

11 **A.** Yes, it was.

12 **Q.** Mr. Gregson, if I were to ask you today all the
13 questions contained in that document, would your
14 answers be the same or substantially the same?

15 **A.** Yes, they would.

16 MS. HAFELI: Your Honor, I ask that the
17 prefiled direct testimony of Tom Gregson be entered
18 into the record as Applicant's Exhibit Number 2.

19 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. Applicant's Exhibit
20 Number 2 is admitted into the record.

21 (Whereupon Applicant's Exhibit 2 was
22 received into evidence.)

1 We normally don't admit the application
2 and attachments as exhibits unless there would be
3 some reason you would wish them to be.

4 MS. HAFELI: Okay.

5 JUDGE WALLACE: But the testimony, yes, I will
6 admit that, and, Mr. Gregson, there are no changes
7 or corrections to the testimony that you previously
8 filed on the e-Docket system?

9 THE WITNESS: No, sir.

10 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. So then the
11 official version will be that as found on the
12 e-Docket system of the Commerce Commission.

13 All right. Anything further, Ms. Hafeli?

14 MS. HAFELI: No, sir.

15 JUDGE WALLACE: Okay.

16 Mr. Gregson, or Ms. Hafeli, did you send
17 me some financial information?

18 MS. HAFELI: I believe there was financial
19 information that was attached to the application on
20 a confidential basis.

21 JUDGE WALLACE: Oh, all right.

22 MS. HAFELI: That didn't make its way to me. I

1 will check with our Clerk's Office. You did file it
2 under confidential cover?

3 MS. HAFELI: Yes, sir.

4 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. I'll have to check
5 to see if it's hidden away in the confidential room
6 then.

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY JUDGE WALLACE:

9 Q. Generally speaking, Mr. Gregson, Metro
10 Teleconnect Companies is financially sound?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. And will be financially able to operate in
13 Illinois?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. All right. How many employees are there of
16 Metro Teleconnect?

17 A. Approximately 140.

18 Q. Okay, and almost all of those or all are based
19 in Pennsylvania?

20 A. The largest share are, yes, sir.

21 Q. All right. And with a little more specificity,
22 what's your duties as operations manager?

1 **A.** As Director of Operations, sir, I oversee
2 pretty much the entire operation. I have a
3 counterpart that's a chief financial officer. He
4 oversees the billing side of the house. Everything
5 having to do with customer service, provisioning, so
6 forth, is all my responsibilities.

7 **Q.** All right. And as you mentioned with
8 Ms. Hafeli, there are no corrections to the answers
9 that you provided in the application itself.

10 **A.** No, sir.

11 **Q.** All right. And just so I'm clear, Metro
12 Teleconnect is seeking authority only under 13-404,
13 resale of local and/or interexchange facilities?

14 MS. HAFELI: Your Honor, if I may, this is
15 Ms. Hafeli.

16 JUDGE WALLACE: Yes.

17 MS. HAFELI: The company is currently
18 authorized to resell local service under Section
19 13-404 and also to operate as a facilities-based
20 local provider under 13-405, and it's seeking to
21 expand that authority now to resell interexchange
22 services under 13-404.

1 JUDGE WALLACE: Okay. I'm sorry. You're
2 seeking to expand resale of interexchange?

3 MS. HAFELI: Well, the company currently is
4 authorized to resell local service under 13-404 but
5 not interexchange service.

6 JUDGE WALLACE: Okay.

7 Q. All right, and then are you -- let's see. You
8 wish to keep all your books and records in
9 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania?

10 MS. HAFELI: This is Ms. Hafeli again. The
11 company is currently authorized to do so, Your
12 Honor, and would seek to retain that waiver.

13 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. And if requested by
14 the Illinois Commerce Commission, you will provide
15 that information?

16 MS. HAFELI: The company has agreed to do so in
17 the past and would do so in the future again, Your
18 Honor.

19 JUDGE WALLACE: Okay. And let's see. I'm just
20 trying to look real quickly at the waivers.

21 Okay. Waiver of Part 710 is the only
22 waiver that I see. Is that correct?

1 MS. HAFELI: Attachment A, which has the waiver
2 requests, was the waiver of Part 710 regarding
3 Uniform System of Accounts, and it also requests the
4 waiver to maintain its book and records in
5 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

6 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. Are there any
7 others that you're requesting?

8 MS. HAFELI: I do not believe so at this time,
9 Your Honor.

10 JUDGE WALLACE: Okay.

11 Q. Mr. Gregson, how long has Metro Teleconnect
12 been in business?

13 A. Since 1997, sir.

14 Q. All right. And according to your application,
15 you are operating in quite a number of states.

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. I won't bother to count them all up.

18 A. Approximately 30.

19 JUDGE WALLACE: All right. Okay then.
20 Everything seems to be in order. I will take a look
21 at the financial information.

22 I have no further questions. Thank you,

1 Mr. Gregson.

2 Ms. Hafeli, do you have anything
3 further?

4 MS. HAFELI: No, sir.

5 JUDGE WALLACE: All right then. There being
6 nothing further, I will mark the record Heard and
7 Taken.

8 HEARD AND TAKEN

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